

Indonesian Council Disagrees Those Demanding Ulema Not To Become Politicians



AH04_020218

Vice-Secretary General of MUI or the Indonesia Ulema Council, cleric Tengku Zulkarnain, has wondered about the obsession and motives of those demanding ulema to stay away from political affairs. To the cleric, they seem to have judged that terrible things would take place when Indonesian ulema become politicians.

The cleric said Wednesday (on 31 January) in his Twitter account that they had got a wrong idea about it.

Explaining that there have been many ulema who are, indeed, good politicians, he mentioned many of them such as cleric Hasyim Asy'ari, Wahid Hasyim, Idham Kholid, Muhammad Natsir, Yai Maimun Zubeir, Gus Dur, and many more.

According to the cleric, those who do not want Indonesian ulema to become politicians are the ones enjoy producing hate speeches with libellous accusations.

"They tend to make attempts to pit Muslims against each other, saying that the agents provocateurs ulema are not deserved to become politicians; ulema should not become politicians," he said, adding that he had never known any radical ulema provoking people to conduct violent actions.

Cleric Tengku Zulkarnain also said that such a political movement to corner ulema would only produce negative results in the coming 2019 presidential elections.

Source: Robi, voa-islam/read/indonesiana/2018/01/31/55846/jawaban-wasekjen-mui-pusat-saat-ada-yang-meminta-ulema-tidak-berpolitik/#sthash.S6nKaE9x.dpbs. "Jawaban Wasekjen MUI Pusat Saat Ada yang Meminta Ulama Tidak Berpolitik (Responses of vice-Secretary General of MUI to those demanding ulema to stay away from political affairs)", in Indonesian, 31Jan18.

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